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Message Text

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60
ACTION HEW-08

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3493

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OSCI, IN
SUBJ: DHEW/PHS - MEETING WITH GOI SECRETARY OF HEALTH
C.S.
KMACHANDRAN

REF: A. NEW DELHI 10371 B. STATE 182559
C. NEW DELHI 6050

1. SEALED LETTER FROM HEW ADDRESSED TO MR.C.S. RAMACHANDRAN ARRIVED BY STATE DEPT. POUCH ON AUGUST 5 AND SENT UNOPENED DIRECTLY TO MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY PLANNING (MOHFP) REFTEL A. MOHFP HAS VERIFIED THAT LETTER OF INVITATION FROM HEW ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HEALTH EDWARDS.

2. ON AUGUST 21, SCIATT AND DY. SCIATT MET WITH MR. RAMACHANDRAN TO DISCUSS INVITATION AMONG GHER MATTERS. THE SECRETARY SEEMED DELIGHTED WITH THE PROSPECT OF VISITING THE U.S. ONCE AGAIN AND FELT THE VISIT COURK HAVE A POSITIVE AND LASTING EFFECT ON INDO/U.S. COOPERATION IN THE HEALTH SCIENCES. BEFORE PROCEEDING FURTHER, HOWEVER, HE MUST DISCUSS THE INVITATION WITH HEALTH MINISTER KARAN SINGH WHO IS NOW IN BUCHAREST ATTENDING THE WORLD POPULATION MEETING AND WILL RETURN TO DELHI NEXT WEEK.

3. THE INVITATION DATES SUGGESTED BY DHEW SEEMED TO BE AGREEABLE TO THE SECRETARY. HE PROMISED TO GIVE US A DEFINITE ANSWER NEXT WEEK AFTER DISCUSSING HIS VISIT WITH THE MINISTER.
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4. MR. RAMACHANDRAN INDICATED THAT IF THE VISIT IS SANCTIONED, HE PROBABLY WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY DR. J.B. SHRIVASTAV, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF HEALTH SERVICES, DR. C.GOPALAN, DIRECTOR GENERAL, INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH AND PERHAPS A DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES FROM ONE OF THE STATE GOVERNMENTS OUR GUESS WOULD BE TAMIL NADU, HIS HOME STATE)

5. WE WILL INFORM HEW IMMEDIATELY UPON HEARING FURTHER FROM MR. RAMACHANDRAN.

6. THE SECRETARY MENTIONED, HOWEVER, THAT HE WOULD BE RETIRING DECEMBER 31, 1974 SINCE HE WILL REACH 58 YEAR (RETIREMENT AGO

OF GOI OFFICIALS). HE SAID IF THE MOH IN ITS WISDOM DECIDES, BECAUSE OF HIS IMMINENT RETIREMENT THAT HIS SUCCESSOR SHOULD GO TO U.S. INSTEAD, THERE WOULD BE SOME DELAY.

7. EMB. OFFICERS MENTIONED TO THE SECRETARY THAT THIS WOULD BE AN APPROPRIATE TIME FOR AN INDIAN HEALTH DELEGATION TO VISIT THE U.S.A. AS A FOLLOW-UP TO DR. EHRLICH'S HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL VISIT TO INDIA LAST SPRING. A GREAT DEAL COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED FROM THE STANDPOINT OF IDENTIFYING MUTUAL PRIORITIES AND DELINEATING DEFINITE AREAS OF RESEARCH COOPERATION THAT WOULD BE PURSUED BETWEEN THE U.S. AND INDIAN INSTITUTIONS.

8. RAMACHANDRAN SAID THE GOI HAS BEEN VERY ACTION IN REFTING THE RECENT ATTACKS IN PARLIAMENT AND THE PRESS AGAINST WHO AND U.S. SPONSORED RESEARCH AND FEELS THEY HAVE DONE A GOOD JOB IN MAKING THEIR POINTS SO FAR. HE EXPECTS THE AWAITED "WHITE PAPER" WILL BE PRESENTED TO PARLIAMENT BY KARAN SINGH SHORTLY AFTER HIS RETURN FROM BUCHAREST.

9. RAMACHANDRAN PROMISED TO EXPEDITE THE CLEARANCE OF THE DHEW-MOHFP RESEARCH AGREEMENT FORMAT THROUGH THE LAW MINISTRY.

10. AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN REQUESTS THAT NO ANNOUNCEMENT OF C.S. RAMACHANDRAN'S VISIT BE MADE YET. WE WOULD LIKE TO HOLD THE OPTION OPEN TO ANNOUNCE IT AT THE TIME A JOINT COMMISSION, WHICH WILL BE CONCERNED WITH SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MAY BE ANNOUNCED DURING SECRETARY KISSINGER'S VISIT TO INDIA.
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